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INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY (U)



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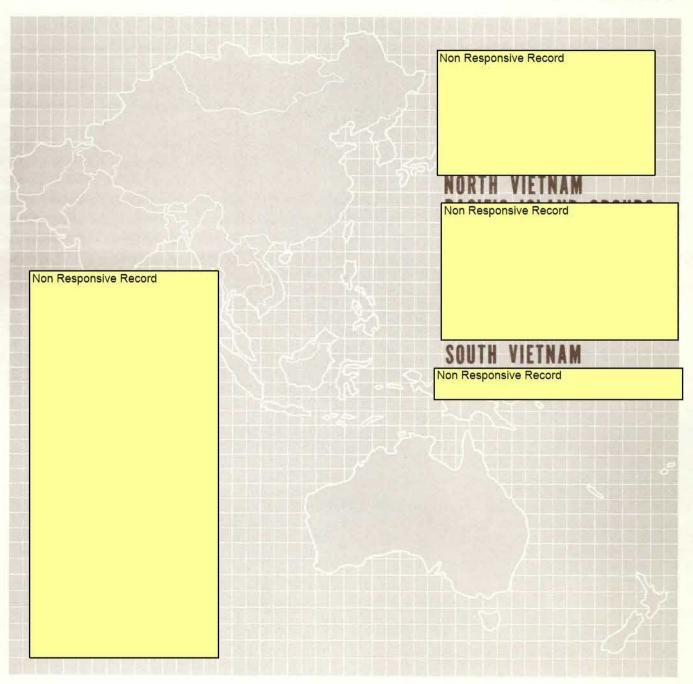
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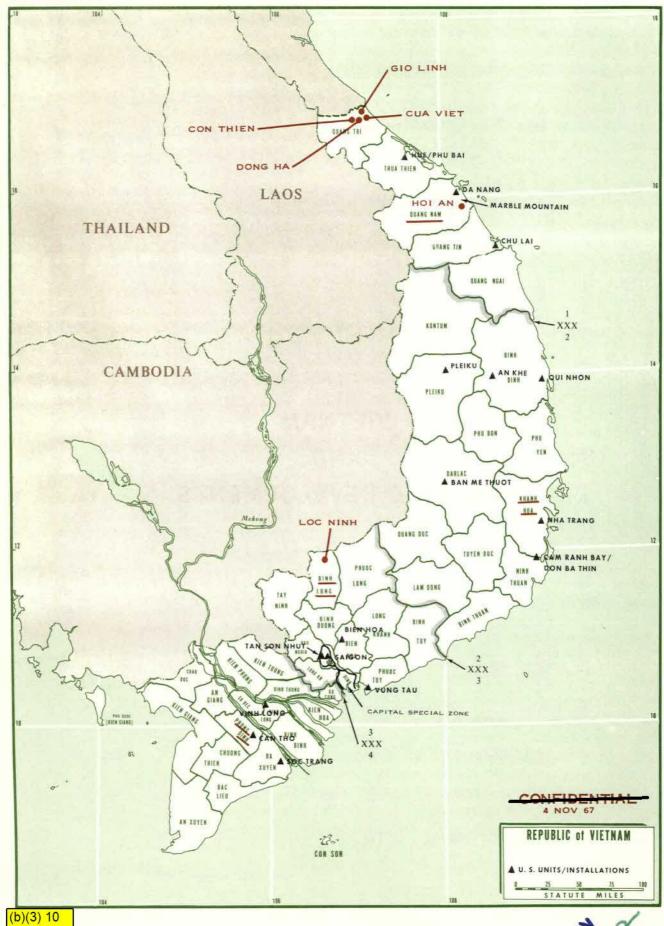
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VIETNAM AND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS



South Vietnam Situation Report

Fighting subsided in the Loc Ninh area of Binh Long Province on 3 November. US Army troops participating in Operation SHENANDOAH II did, however, receive an estimated 40 to 50 mortar rounds about six miles northeast of Loc Ninh early that In the two-hour engagement that followed. 23 of the enemy were killed; friendly casualties were four killed and 34 wounded. On the 2d, 461 Viet Cong and NVA personnel had been killed in heavy fighting near Loc Ninh District Town and the US Army Special Forces Camp; there were few friendly losses. The enemy force involved consisted of elements of the 273d VC Regiment: they mounted a series of attacks during a six-hour period against the ARVN district headquarters compound at Loc Ninh.

Two prisoners from the 273d claim that the regiment's attack plan directed the 1st Battalion to make a frontal assault on the district headquarters and the 2d and 3d Battalions to attack the left and right sides. The purpose of the operation was to overrun the compound and evacuate prisoners and equipment to the regimental headquarters about 15 miles from Loc Ninh. According to previous reports, the 1st and 2d Battalions may have been the units that had overrun the compound early on 29 October but were forced to withdraw by Allied reaction forces.

A number of attacks occurred in 1st Corps on 2 November. About 35 mortar rounds were fired at the Vietnamese Navy base at Cua Viet in Quang Tri Province, and 25 rounds of 105-mm howitzer fire struck a base manned by an ARVN artillery battalion near Gio Linh. Both have been favorite targets of North Vietnamese gun crews over the past six months. US Marines operating in the Con Thien area received 82-mm mortar and artillery fire.

elements of the 90th Sec. 3.3(b) (1) and 1010 NVA Regiments, subordinate to the 324B and 325C Divisions, are still operating in the vicinity of Con Thien. A 2 November message from a 90th Regiment unit furnished information on the activities of friendly troops south of Con Thien. It also said

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that "Company 3 of Song Lam" (101D Regiment) had attacked the "enemy" at 1300 hours. Operational reports indicate that USMC elements taking part in Operation KENTUCKY contacted an enemy force, probably the 3d Company of the 1st Battalion, 101D Regiment, on 1 November; they killed 11 of the enemy at a cost of five killed and 13 wounded.

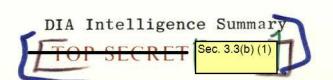
A hamlet and a resettlement camp about 15 miles west of Hoi An in Quang Nam Province came under mortar fire and were then assaulted on the 2d; at the same time, an estimated company attacked a bridge defended by a Popular Forces (PF) platoon. A US Marine reaction force sent to reinforce the PF troops was attacked from three sides. More enemy troops attacked a hamlet in the area, and friendly positions were raked by mortar, recoilless-rifle, and antitank rocket fire. MACV says that the attacks may have been intended to relieve pressure on NVA 2d Division elements in southern Quang Nam by forcing Allied troops to be diverted to the battle area. It is believed that the VC R 20 Local Force and 402d Main Force Sapper Battalions were involved.

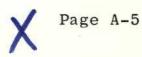
In Quang Tri Province on 3 November, 21 of the enemy were killed when elements of an ARVN battalion engaged an unknown size enemy force three miles northeast of Dong Ha. Friendly casualties were three wounded.

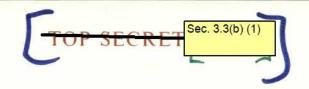
An estimated two companies entered hamlets about two miles northwest of Nha Trang in Khanh Hoa Province of 2d Corps early on the 3d. Friendly reconnaissance elements discovered the two companies, and a Vietnamese and a South Korean reaction force engaged them. Initial reports indicate that eight of the enemy were killed during heavy fighting; friendly losses were three killed and eight wounded.

A US Infantry company in Darlac Province, 25 miles north-northeast of Ban Me Thuot, received a mortar and ground probing attack on 3 November killing one US and wounding six; enemy losses were 24 killed.

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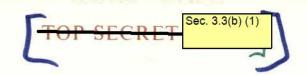
AN ARVN Ranger battalion in night defensive positions in 4th Corps' Phong Dinh Province was struck by about 10 rounds of 81-mm mortar fire and was then attacked by a force of unknown size. the three-and-one-half hour fight that followed, the enemy lost 33 killed and 17 weapons (one rocket launcher); friendly losses were two killed and 18 wounded. An estimated reinforced enemy company attacked and overran a Revolutionary Development (RD) outpost manned by RD cadre and a platoon of National Police in Kien Tuong Province on 3 November. VC losses were five killed; friendly casualties were 21 killed, 10 wounded and 15 missing. MACV says that although the enemy continues to avoid sweep operations in the corps area, there has been a marked increase in attacks against night defensive positions: he suggests that the Central Office for South Vietnam has ordered activities in its area stepped up.

Political Developments

(8-Norotti/HDA) Military leaders have not been nor do they expect to be consulted regarding ministerial appointments. The generals intend to let President Thieu and Vice President Ky run the government without interference and merely provide advice and guidance when requested or when some problem arises which affects the government's stability. It will not be known for some time how much Thieu will rely on the generals. Maj Gen Le Nguyen Khang, 3d Corps Commander, believes that Ky has lost much prestige recently but does not think that any anti-Ky movement is under way. admits that the military leadership has failed in many respects over the past two years, especially in eliminating corruption, and claims that field grade officers are disgusted and impatient for reforms. thinks that a strong prime minister will be able to extend the central government's influence in the provinces at the expense of that now wielded by corps and division commanders. (SECRET SSec. 3.3 Sec. 3.3(b)

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SOVIET 122-MM ROCKET WEAPON POSITIONS AT TONLE SAN CAMBODIA (b) (3) 10 U.S .C. 424 ASSUMED DIRECTION CREW COMPARTMENT OF FIRE AMMO STORAGE CREW TRENCH 22'4" - DIRECTION OF FIRE FIRING BAY DEFLECTOR 76 INCHES 100 POUNDS 1T 41 POUNDS POINT DETONATING QUICK AND TWO DELAY OPTIONS 12,000 VARDS EST SINGLE TUBE MOUNTED ON TRIPOD LENGTH WEIGHT WARHEAD WEIGHT FUZE OPTIONS ARTIST CONCEPTION OF 7'5" 122-MM TRIPOD MOUNT (b)(3) 104 NOV 67 (b)(3) 10 U.S.C. 424 U.S.C. 424



More Information on Soviet 122-mm Rocket in Vietnam

Initial examination of launch tubes for a Soviet 122-mm spin-stabilized rocket captured recently in South Vietnam shows that they generally fit the description obtained previously through prisoner interrogation. The tube is 8.2 feet long, weighs 44 pounds, and has an outside diameter of 126.5 millimeters and an inside diameter of 122.4 millimeters. It seems to have been designed for a Soviet multiround launcher -- possibly a prototype of the 115-mm 40-round rocket launcher -- and then modified for single-tube operation. Cyrillic markings were noted on an attachment for securing the single tube to a ground mount.

Although one has yet to be captured, a fairly detailed description of the ground mount for a 122-mm launcher has been provided by a former gunner of a 122mm rocket unit. He says that the mount consists of a tripod with one leg forward and two aft. The mount is held firmly in position by 4x8-inch pads fastened to the end of each leg. The distance from the front leg to the rear ones is about six feet -- that between rear legs is about 2.5 feet. This description and the measurements generally conform to the size, shape, and location of the three probable ground wells in the forward end of excavations sighted in northeastern Cambodia. excavations -- believed to be training positions -would probably accommodate a 10- to 14-man crew. also referred to by the former gunner. The most likely candidate for this type of excavation is the 122-mm spinstabilized rocket.

A cache of 122-mm rocket components was recently discovered along with a document that describes a "spoiler ring" packed with the rocket-propellant sections. The ring was said to have a diameter of 112 millimeters and to have been attached to a groove immediately behind the fuze. Its purpose was to create drag so that the rocket could be fired at ranges between 3,200 and 5,500 yards, thereby permitting targets to be engaged that might be masked by terrain obstacles at normal firing elevations. The ring might also allow the weapon to be employed either from concealed firing positions near the target or from well-prepared positions farther away. This is the first known use of such a device on Soviet

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rockets, and similar types of spoilers could be used on existing rocket systems for firing at intermediate ranges. (SECRET)

More MIGs May Have Deployed to China

North Vietnam's MIG fighter force has been further reduced. Sec. 3.3(b)(1) least three probable MIG-15/17s and one probable MIG-21 flew from Gia Lam to Communist China -- probably to Nanning -- on 3 November. This reduces the total of estimated operational jet fighters in North Vietnam to one MIG-17/17 and three MIG-21s. (SECRET (b)(3) 10

High-Level Changes in North Vietnamese Government

North Vietnam has announced a number of personnel changes in the government, primarily involving those in the economic field. Politburo member Le Thanh Nghi was replaced as Minister of Heavy Industry by Nguyen Huu Mai who has been in charge of Communications and Transport since 1955. Nghi is expected to continue to wield considerable influence on economic matters and will probably remain North Vietnam's chief aid negotiator.

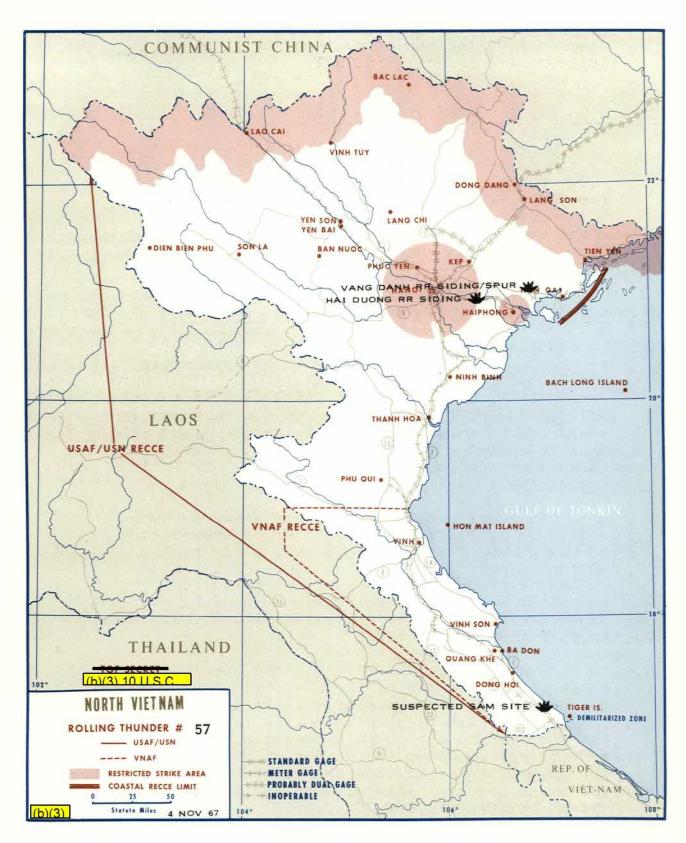
Other personnel shifted were Hoang An, who relinquished his post as Minister of Agriculture to Hoang Quoc Thinh. Some of the other newly appointed officials may have been serving in South Vietnam. These include Chairman of the State Price Committee Do Muoi and Col Nguyen Dinh Tung, who was named President of the Central Military Court and Vice Premier of the Supreme People's Court.

The most unusual shift was the appointment of Nguyen Con, Chairman of the State Planning Commission, to the post of Vice Premier. There is nothing in Con's background or present duties that single him out for elevation to such a position. His appointment brings to seven the number of vice premiers in the regime. Five of them are members of the Politburo, including Defense Minister Giap and Foreign Minister Trinh. (SECRET NO POSSEM)

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P Summary of Air Strikes Against North Vietnam, 3 November

A total of 267 US aircraft conducted strikes against North Vietnamese targets on 3 November.

Of the sorties flown, 38 were against the following significant targets:

Sorties	Target	BDA (Pilot Reports)		
22	Vang Danh RR Siding/ Spur	Multiple rail interdictions; two large secondary fires observed.		
12	Suspected SAM Site	One large secondary explosion observed.		
4	Hai Duong RR Siding	Multiple rail interdictions; one large secondary explosion observed.		

Armed Reconnaissance Strike Results

	Destroyed	Damaged/ Cratered/Cut	Struck (No Report)
Bridges	4	7	13
Ferries		1	1
Ford			1
Highway/road segments		13	
Piers		2	
Transshipment areas		2	2
Trucks	3	3	29
Truck parks		1	11
WBL craft	8	20	14
AAA	3	2	6
Buildings/structures	15	1	
Bunkers		1	4
Field gun positions	3	2	6
Radar sites			8
Storage areas		9	11
Supply area			1
Observation towers		1	2
Troop concentrations			5
Coastal defense site			ī

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